



AMENDMENTS

RECEIVED
JAN 28 2004
GROUP 3600

In The Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended). A suspension subframe for a vehicle, said subframe comprising:

a plurality of metal tubes standardized for use in vehicle exhaust systems, said metal tubes affixed to each other; and

a structural foam material positioned within the metal tubes, said structural foam selected from the group consisting of a cartridge-based foam material and a sprayable foam material.

Claim 2 (original). The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the metal tubes have a gauge of less than about 2 mm.

Claim 3 (original). The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the metal tubes have a gauge between about 0.9 mm and about 1.8 mm

Claim 4 (original). The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the metal tubes have about a 1.5 mm gauge.

Claim 5 (original). The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the structural foam material is selected from the group of polyurethane-based foams and epoxy-based foams.

Claim 6 (original). The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the structural foam material is an epoxy-based foam.

Claim 7 (original). The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the structural foam material is localized at specific points in the tube.

Claim 8 (currently amended). A suspension subframe for a vehicle, said subframe comprising:

a plurality of metal tubes standardized for use in vehicle exhaust systems, each of said tubes defined by metal walls having a gauge of about 1.5 mm; and

an epoxy-based structural foam material positioned within the metal tubes, said structural foam material localized at predetermined areas in the tubes and selected from the group consisting of a cartridge inserted within said metal tubes and a structural foam capable of being sprayed.

Claims 9 – 19 (cancelled).

Claim 20 (previously added). The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said structural foam material comprises and able to be cured within said metal tubes.

Claim 21 (previously added). The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said structural foam material is selected from the group of polyurethane-based foams and epoxy-based foams.

Claim 22 (previously added). The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said structural foam material comprises an epoxy-based foam.

Claim 23 (previously added). The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said structural foam material comprises a structural foam capable of being sprayed.